

## **Information Systems Malpractice and Crime.**

Describe the particular issues surrounding access to, and use of the Internet; e.g. Censorship, Security and Ethics.

**Ethics:** the discipline dealing with what is good and bad and with moral duty and obligation.

**Dictionary:** a system of moral principals.

**Philosophy:** dealing with values relating to human conduct with respect to the rightness and wrongness of certain actions and to the goodness and badness of the motives and the ends of such actions.

**Ethics and the Web:** Ethics would seem to be the last topic to be covered in a technical discussion of the Internet. But as with any democratic society, the Internet depends on agreed-upon rules of behaviour to survive.

Examples of unethical and criminal behaviour:

- Stealing copyright and credit for intellectual property.
- Intercepting private e-mail.
- Display of pornographic material.
- Deliberate public misinformation.
- Misuse of research material.
- Improper/fraudulent commercial/personal use of the network.
- Stealing credit information.
- Display of information that could be harmful.

The Ten Commandments from the Computer Ethics Institute:

- Thou shalt not use a computer to harm other people. (info)
- Thou shalt not interfere with other peoples computer work. (virus)
- Thou shalt not snoop around in other people's files. (privacy)
- Thou shalt not use a computer to steal. (fraud)
- Thou shalt not use a computer to bear false witness. (disinfo)
- Thou shalt not use or copy software for which is not paid for. (stealing)
- Thou shalt not use other people's resources without permission.
- Thou shalt not appropriate other people's intellectual output. (copyright)
- Thou shalt think about the social consequences of the program you write.
- Thou shalt use a computer in ways that show consideration and respect.

The Ten Commandments are from: The Net: User Guidelines and Netiquette – by Arlene Rinaldi, from the Computer Ethics Institute.

URL = <http://www.fau.edu/rinaldi/net/ten.html>